

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A probe for simulating refrigerated product temperature in a refrigeration display case, comprising:

a thermal mass having thermo-physical properties similar to refrigerated food product;

a temperature sensing element operable to measure a temperature of said thermal mass; and

a transceiver connected to said temperature sensing element and operable to wirelessly transmit measured temperature data from the refrigeration display case to a remote receiver.

2. The probe of Claim 1 further comprising a housing containing said thermal mass and said temperature sensing element.

3. The probe of Claim 2 wherein said housing contains said transceiver.

4. The probe of Claim 1 wherein said temperature sensing element is positioned approximately centrally in said thermal mass.

5. The probe of Claim 1 wherein said transceiver is a radio frequency device operable to transmit and receive parametric data.

6. The probe of Claim 1 wherein said transceiver is operable to transmit control signals.

7. A method for simulating refrigerated product temperature in a refrigeration display case, comprising:

employing a thermal mass having thermo-physical properties similar to refrigerated food product;

measuring a temperature of said thermal mass; and

wirelessly transmitting said measured temperature from the refrigeration display case to a remote receiver.

8. The method of Claim 7 wherein said transmitting includes transmitting said measured temperature through a transceiver.

9. The method of Claim 7 wherein said transmitting includes transmitting said measured temperature data from said receiver to a main controller.

10. The method of Claim 7 further comprising collecting measured temperature data.

11. The method of Claim 7 further comprising analyzing measured temperature data.

12. The method of Claim 7 further comprising controlling temperature based on said measured temperature data.

13. The method of Claim 7 further comprising containing said thermal mass in a housing.

14. The method of Claim 13 further comprising containing a transceiver in said housing and wherein said transceiver wirelessly transmits said measured temperature.

15. A method for simulating refrigerated food product temperature, comprising:

disposing a thermal mass having thermo-physical properties similar to refrigerated food product in a refrigeration display case;

installing a sensor to measure a temperature of said thermal mass; and

enabling wireless transmission of said measured temperature to a remote receiver.

16. The method of Claim 15 wherein said installing includes positioning a temperature sensing element in said thermal mass.

17. The method of Claim 15 wherein said enabling includes positioning said transceiver in a housing containing said thermal mass.

18. The method of Claim 15 wherein said enabling includes positioning said transceiver external to a housing containing said thermal mass.

19. The method of Claim 15 wherein said enabling includes enabling transmission of said measured temperature to a system controller.